18th July 1953]

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" With the limited extent of my understanding of Sri Gopalakrishnaiah's resumed Telugu, I might say that the proceedings will certainly be supplied, whenever possible."

SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP :—" Has the Malabar district a Planning Board and, if not, will the Government be pleased to constitute one? "

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" I shall inquire, and for the latter part, yes."

Government publications given to ex-Legislators.

* 651 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many Government publications together with their cost were supplied to the members of the previous Legislature on condition that they are returnable when the members cease to be Legislators;

(*b*) whether all or any of them have been returned; and

(*c*) the steps taken by the Government to recover the publications or their cost?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) Six copies of Government publications, such as Codes, Statutes and Manuals were supplied to four members of the Legislature by the Superintendent, Government Press, Madras. The total cost of these publications is Rs. 26–2–0. When the publications were supplied, no reference was made to a return of the publications on the termination of their terms of office.

" (*b*) None of the above six publications was returned.

" (*c*) The question of waiving the recovery of the cost of the books is under consideration."

Representations from the Secretary, Chambra Peak Estate Workers' Union.

* 652 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries and Labour be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any memorandum from the Secretary, Chambra Peak Estate Workers' Union, Meppadi, Wynaad, dated 27th October 1952; and

(*b*) if so, what action Government have taken on the same?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) Yes, Sir.

" (*b*) No action has been taken on the memorandum as the High Court has stayed the adjudication proceedings relating to the plantation disputes pending disposal of the writ petition filed by the South Indian Estate Labour Relations Organization, Coonoor."

SRI K. P. GOPALAN :—" In view of the fact that there are 222 plantations in Malabar, Coimbatore, the Nilgiris and other places and that there is only one Court at Coimbatore, namely, the Industrial Tribunal, will the Government be pleased to constitute a separate Court for the settlement of disputes of the plantation workers? "

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" The question will be considered as soon as the High Court's stay order is vacated."

Construction of wells in Harijan colonies.

* 653 *Q*.—SRI A. RATHINAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are implementing the recommendation of the Harijan Welfare Committee of 1948 at page 16 of their report that 10,000 wells may be constructed within five years for the Harijan localities in the State;

(*b*) if so, how many wells were constructed for the past five years;

(*c*) how many have been completed and how many are yet to be completed; and

(*d*) whether Rs. 50,000 as mentioned at page 16 of the report have been spent on wells in each firka under the Firka Development Scheme?

THE HON. DR. M. V. KRISHNA RAO :—" (*a*) The Government have not fixed any target for the number of wells to be provided for, for the Harijan localities in any selected period of time as recommended by the Harijan Welfare Committee. It was decided that as under Rural Water Supply scheme and also under Firka Development scheme, adequate provision was made for digging wells, etc., no separate allotment was considered necessary from the One Crore Fund set apart for Harijan Welfare. Wells are now provided for the benefit of the villagers including Harijans under the Rural Water-Supply scheme and Firka Development scheme. Besides some amount is also spent every year from the Harijan Welfare Budget for the provision of the wells for Harijans whenever there is urgent necessity.

" (*b*), (*c*) & (*d*) The particulars are not fully readily available. But I have some information so far as the Harijan Welfare Department is concerned. The number of wells constructed up to 1951–52 is 953. The number of wells constructed under the Rural Welfare scheme up to 30th September 1952 is roughly 2,900."

SRI A. RATHINAM :—" May I know whether the Government will take any keen interest in the welfare of Harijans other than by way of granting scholarships? If so, what are the measures of that kind and what is the amount of money spent on them? "